Presbyterian church in Canada.
Ministers' widows' & orphan fund
1858.

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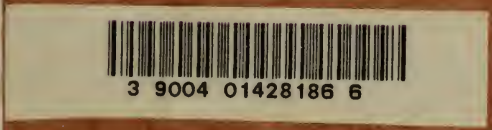

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R. Bell

Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER,

FOR 1858.

In submitting a statement of the money received and expended by the Treasurer during the past year, while it must be admitted that the same prosperity has not attended the Fund as in former years, it is, nevertheless, gratifying to observe that, notwithstanding a considerable decrease in some sources of revenue, and a largely increased expenditure in annuities, a sum of $2,413.62 has been added to the capital of the Fund. Comparing the accounts of this year with the year before, it will be seen that there has been a decrease in the Congregational Collections of $398.10, which, it is hoped, may fairly be charged to the severe pressure in money matters felt everywhere during the year, and not to any want of interest in the scheme, or want of desire to help it on the part of the people. The Ministers' individual contributions have increased by $54.

The annuities, owing to the working of the new scale, are increased by $606.50, an increase which it is hoped the people will sustain. Nothing would gratify the Board more than to be able to move further in this direction. The following statement shows the transactions of the year :—

RECEIVED.

Money on hand when the year Commenced	$1,190.91
Received from Congregational Collections.	1,657.82
" " Ministers Contributions . .	1,020.00
" " Interest on Investments . .	1,332.62
" " Loans Repaid.	800.00

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Received from A Friend in Cornwall, Per Rev. H. Urquhart, D.D.	6.20
There should be added, in order to show the return from Investments, (due but not Collected) a sum of	268.00
	6,007.55

EXPENDED.

Expended in Annuities to Widows. . . .	1,820.00
" in Expenses of Management, Printing, Postage, &c.	51.02
" in Investments bearing Interest .	2,000.00
And there is in hand Deposited in the Bank of Montreal, ...	2,136.53
	6,007.55
The Capital of the Fund consists of thirteen Mortgages, on which is lent a sum of .	19,808.00
And a Preferential Bond for	606.00
Shewing the Invested Capital to be . . .	20,414.00
To which, add the Cash on hand	2,136.53
And Interest due, but not paid in	268.00
Shewing the Total Amount of the Fund to be	22,818.53

Three Ministers have disregarded the injunction of Synod, and made no collection for the fund during the past year. Of these two are in the Presbytery of Hamilton, viz., Rev. John Skinner, D.D., Nelson and Waterdown; Rev. John Whyte, Arthur. One is in the Presbytery of London, viz., Rev. James Stuart, Woodstock.

Since the Books for the year were closed the collection from Quebec has been increased to $80, and collections have been received from Rev. Robt. Johnson, of Clarke, $4; Rev. Robt. Stevenson, of Williams, $5, for 1857, and $5 for 1858.

During the past year three Ministers have died, viz., Rev. Wm. Bell, of Perth, the Rev. John Lindsay, of Litchfield, and the Rev. G. M'Clatchey. Each of these Ministers left a widow.

The number of Widows now receiving annuities from the Fund, is eighteen.

The following statement shews the sums collected in aid of the Fund from the different congregations within the bounds of the Synod :—

FOR 1857.

Hemmingford, per Rev. J. Merlin,	$6.80
Vaughan, Mr. W. R. Graham, Elder	16.20
West Flamboro, Parochial Association,	8.00
Guelph. Mr. D. Allan, Elder,	12.00

FOR 1858.

St. Andrews', Montreal, Dr. Mathieson,	160.00
Brockville, per Judge Malloch, Elder,	24.15
Valcartier, per Rev. D. Shanks,	7.00
Smiths' Falls, per Rev. S. Mylne,	9.00
Toronto, " " Jno. Barclay, D.D,	80.00
Hamilton, " " D. Burnett,	66.00
Markham, " " Jas. Gordon,	12.00
Galt, " " H. Gibson,	12.00
Cornwall, " " H. Urquhart, D.D.	30.00
Three Rivers, " " Geo. D. Ferguson,	20.70
Pickering, per Rev. S. G. M'Caughey,	12.00
Chatham, C.E, per Rev. W. Mair,	3.00
Grenville, " " "	4.00
Hawkesbury, " " "	10.00
London, " Mr. M'Kenzie, Elder,	8.00
Russelltown, " Rev. F. P. Sym,	12.00
L'Orignal, " Mr. Gavin Walker,	8.00
Lachine, " Rev. W. Simpson,	36.00
Pakenham, " " A. Mann,	14.00
Saltfleet, " " H. Niven,	12.00
Perth, " " W. Bain,	16.00
Hemmingford, " Dr. Verity, Elder,	10.00
Dundee, " Rev. J. Moffatt,	7.00
Fergus, " Mr. A. D. Fordyce, Elder,	24.00
Huntingdon " Rev. A. Wallace,	26.00
St. Louis DeGonzague, per Rev. J. T. Paul,	5.60
Goderich, per Rev. A. M'Kid,	19.75
Bayfield, " " "	4.52
Ormstown, " " J. Anderson,	8.38
Dewitville, " " "	2.62
Ramsay, " " J. M'Morine,	16.00
Darlington, per Rev. J. H. Mackerras,	12.00
New Market, " " J. Brown,	13.50
Renfrew, " " G. Thomson,	13.70
Sterling, " " A. Buchan,	9.25
Cumberland, " " P. Lindsay,	17.00
Shakespeare, " " W. Bell,	4.28
Kingston, " Mr. J. Mowat, Elder,	84.00
King, " Rev. Jno. Tawse,	6.00

Pakenham, additional, per Rev.		A. Mann,	1.00
Woolwich, per Rev.		J. Thom,	12.00
St. Pauls', Montreal, per Rev.		W. Snodgrass,	176.70
Beckwith,	" "	W. M'Hutchinson,	14.00
Thorah,	" "	D. Watson,	24.00
Vaughan,	" "	vacant,	8.80
Thurso,	" "	A. Lewis,	4.00
Hornby,	" "	W. Barr,	8.00
Nottawasaga,	" "	J. Campbell,	11.75
Brock, Reach, &c.,	" "	John Campbell,	13.60
Mulmur,	" "	A. Colquhoun,	4.00
Laprairie,	" "	I. Rannie,	6.00
Plantaganet,	" "	C. Grigor,	12.00
Lochiel,	" "	D. M'Donald,	37.00
Martintown,	" "	P. M'Vicar,	18.00
Indian Lands,	" "	"	6.00
Beechridge,	" "	J. M'Donald,	7.00
Kitley,	" "	D. Evans,	5.00
North Georgetown,	" "	J. C. Muir,	12.25
Lancaster,	" "	Thos. M'Pherson,	12.12
Beauharnois,	" "	Thos. Haig,	12.00
Huntley,	" "	J. Sinclair,	12.00
Williamsburgh,	" "	T. Scott,	6.00
Osnabruck,	" "	R. Dobie,	12.00
Quebec,	" "	J. Cook, D.D.,	16.20
Melbourne,	" "	Jas. Severight,	24 00
Richmond,	" "	W. White,	12.00
Seymour,	" "	R. Neil,	16.00
Williamstown,	" "	P. Watson,	20.00
Point Levy,	" "	D. Anderson,	12.00
Lanark,	" "	Thos. Fraser,	7.00
Ottawa,	" "	A. Spence,	40.00
New Richmond,	" "	J. Davidson,	12 00
Scarboro'	" "	J. Bain,	24.00
Belleville,	" "	A. Walker,	26.95
Clifton,	" "	Geo. Bell,	8.00
Finch,	" "	D. Monro,	12.00
Scott & Uxbridge,	" "	W. Cleland,	12.00
Chatham, C.W.,	" "	Jno. Robb,	10.00
Eldon,	" "	Jno. M'Murchy,	20.00
Camden East,	" "	Jas. Wightman, Trea.,	4.00
Cote St. George,	"	Jno. Craig, Ruling Elder,	16.00
Chinguacousy,	"	Rev. Thos. Johnson,	4.00
Westminister,	"	" Jas. M,Ewen,	8.00
North Dorchester,	"	" Wm. M'Ewen,	8.00
South Gower,	"	" Joseph Anderson,	4.00
Guelph,	"	Mr. D. Allan, Elder,	16.00
Dalhousie Mills, Mr. A. Cattanach, Elder,			8.00
			$1657,82

Due regard has been paid to the economical working of the Fund, and a careful selection made of the securities on which money has been lent, all of which are believed to be perfectly safe.

The whole is respectfully submitted.

JOHN GREENSHIELDS,

Montreal, May 15, 1858. *Treasurer.*

Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund.

REPORT OF THE MANAGERS, FOR 1858.

The Board of Managers of "The Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund," submit the following report of their transactions during the past year:—

It is with no little satisfaction the Board has to announce, that although the Annuities of Widows' now on the fund were last year considerably augmented, the anticipation expressed in last Annual Report of a continued increase to the permanent fund (investments) has been fully realised, and that the hope may be now confidently entertained, that in the course of two or three years a further augmentation may be made without any risk of encumbering the management or imperiling the success of the Scheme.

The Revenue for last year was, from interest on

Investments, ...		$1600.62
Ministers' Contributions, ...		1126.20
Congregational Collections, ...		1657.82
		$4284.64
Paid to Annuitants, ...	$1820	
Incidental Expenses, . .	51.02	
		1871.02
Leaving to be added to permanent fund, . .		$2413.62
Total amount at Credit of fund 1857,	$20404.92	
Less Bonus, ...	34.00	
		$20438.92
At Credit of fund at this date, . . .		$22818.54

It thus appears that only $220 have been taken from this year's contributions, and added to the interest on investments to cover the year's expenditure.

Notwithstanding, a Circular was sent forth from the Board to be read from the pulpit before making the annual collection, appealing to the liberality of congregations. The Board has to regret that the congregational collections have fallen short of those of last year $398.10; or somewhat more than one-fifth. This deficiency, however, may be accounted for — not from any decreasing interest in the prosperity of the scheme—but from the recent monetary crisis, the influence of which extended to all the relations of public life. The Board doubts not, with reviving prosperity, a considerable increase will be made this year, to the collections in aid of this important scheme.

The increase from Ministers' contributions is $54; but there being an increase to the number of Annuitants, it would be unwise to increase the payments from this branch of the fund in its present condition.

Congregations on the Roll of the Synod having Minister's who have not sent their contributions to the fund, are four, Nelson and Waterdown, Dr. Skinner; Arthur, John Whyte; Woodstock, James Stewart; Williams, Robert Stevenson.

Several Presbyteries having failed to report the Stations, within their bounds, where congregations have been duly organized, but are yet without Ministers. The Board is unable to state whether any Presbyteries have disregarded the injunction of the Synod, to take order, that collections shall be made in all vacant stations and congregations, and remitted to the Treasurer in due time.

Since last Report three widows' have been added to the Roll of Annuitants, viz:—Mrs. Lindsay, Mrs. M'Clatchey and Mrs. Wm. Bell. The number of Annuitants is 18, viz:—Mrs. Roach, Mrs. M'Gill, Mrs. Milligan, Mrs. Mair, Mrs. Purkis, Mrs. M'Lean, Mrs. Bryning, Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Dickey, Mrs. Bell, Mrs. Ross, Mrs. Lambie, Mrs. Moody, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. M'Laurin, Mrs. M'Clatchey, Mrs. Lindsay, and Mrs. Wm. Bell.

The Board has again to complain of the remissness of Presbyteries, with the exception of Bathurst and Glengarry, in not forwarding to the Secretary a statement of the date of the ordination or induction of Ministers now on the Roll of the Synod, or that may hereafter be admitted within one month thereafter, although it is understood that ordinations or inductions have taken place in every Presbytery, except Kingston and Montreal.

Also, of Ministers neglecting to send with their congregational collections a statement as near as can be ascertained, of the number of families who form the congregation. It is earnestly desired that the Synod shall enforce their injunctions in relation to the information which has been deemed essential to be in possession of the Board, in order to the faithful working out of the scheme.

In compliance with the direction of the Synod, the Board appointed a Committee of Correspondence with the Ministers of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, with a view to ascertain whether it was their desire to co-operate with the Synod, and become participators of the benefits of the Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' scheme, and to take legal advice as to the feasibleness of extending the benefits of the scheme to the Ministers of the Lower Provinces.

The Committee, having taken legal advice, reported, that in order to extend the provisions of the Charter of the Board, to parties not specially mentioned therein, it would require that the Charter be so modified, as to include parties not specified therein, who desire to be contributors to the fund, and participators in its benefits; an alteration which the Committee were of opinion could be easily obtained. And, also, that it was desirable and expedient to have the provisions of the Act extended to the Ministers of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and recommend a union on some equitable basis, in so far as respects the Permanent Fund, hereafter to be determined on. Much clear and valuable information has been received on this matter from the Synod of New Brunswick;

but, as no information has yet been received from the Synod of Nova Scotia, the Board has not matured any measure that could be brought before this Synod for its consideration and approval, and would merely recommend that the negociations on this matter be continued.

In virtue of the power vested in the Board, Joseph M. Ross was elected a member of the Board, in the room of Hew Ramsay, Esq., deceased, and crave the Synod to confirm the appointment.

There have been some points which have been suggested to the Board for consideration, on which it is desirable to hear the mind of the Synod, before adopting such By-Laws, as may tend to prevent future misapprehension or dispute.

1. When a Minister dies, leaving a widow, also leaving a family by a former wife, deceased, Is the annuity to be paid to the widow; or, is part to be paid to the children of the first marriage, and in what proportion?

2. Should a Minister, with the concurrence of the Ecclesiastical Courts, demit his charge and leave the bounds of the Synod, yet continuing to pay regularly to the Fund the yearly contributions to the Ministers' Department of the Fund—but the congregational collections ceasing in so far as relates to him,—shall, on his demise, his widow be entitled to receive from the Congregational Department, as well as from the Ministers' Department, an annuity in proportion to the congregational collections made by him during his incumbency,—according to the average it may bear from his induction to the whole years of his life; or, in what other proportion?

The investments, which consist of mortgages on fixed property and one railroad bond, are considered perfectly secure. The Board has exercised the greatest dilligence and care to make the investments safe, as well as profitable.

The Treasurers' Account is herewith transmitted.

All which is humbly submitted.

ALEX. MATHIESON, D.D.,
Chairman.

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